GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3565
ANSWERED ON:08.08.2017
Prices of Fruits, Vegetables and Milk
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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the prices of fruits, vegetables, milk and other agricultural commodities have increased manifold beyond the reach of the common man;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the prices of tomatoes in wholesale and retail markets have increased exorbitantly during the last few months;

(d) if so, the details thereof indicating the rise in prices in terms of percentage; and

(e) the long term and short-term measures taken/proposed to be taken by the Government to bring down the prices of fruits, vegetables, milk and other agricultural commodities so as to bring them within the reach of the common man?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE AND FARMERS WELFARE

???? ??? ????? ?????? ???????? ??? ????? ?????? (SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) & (b): The wholesale prices of fruits in the country are broadly in a normal range but, that of certain vegetables like tomato and onion have exhibited spikes in prices in the month of July, 2017 after heavy rainfall and floods in few states.

For tomatoes, June-July-August is the lean production period and the crop was also damaged due to monsoon rain and disruption of supply due to floods.

The prices of potato are stable in major potato producing States.

The procurement and sale price of milk are decided based on the input cost of milk production by the District Cooperative Milk Unions in consultation with State Cooperative Milk Federation and the State Governments. The prices of milk are broadly the same over past six months.
Contdâ€¦2/-

(c) & (d): Damage to the tomato crop due to rain and disruption of supply-line on account of flood has resulted in rise in prices in tomatoes in the month of June and July. The increase in wholesale and retail prices of tomatoes during June-July, 2017 in terms of percentage over previous month are as given below:

Months % increase over previous month
Wholesale Price Retail Price
June 37.59% 27.16%
July 90.49% 167.21%

(Source: AGMARKNET for Wholesale Price)
(Source: Deptt of Consumer Affairs for Retail Price)

(e): Steps taken by government to control the prices of fruits and vegetables are as follows:

â€¢ The Govt. is implementing the scheme called electronic National Agriculture market (e-NAM) to lower transaction costs to buyers and stable prices and availability to consumers.

â€¢ Farmers are mobilized into Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs) for aggregation and economies of scale. Efforts are being made to link FPOs to market by way of direct marketing farmer consumer markets/ Apni Mandi and e-markets.

â€¢ Assistance is provided for development of post harvest management and marketing infrastructure such as cold storages, ripening chamber, pack houses, reefer vehicles, primary and wholesale markets, Kisan Mandies, etc.

â€¢ Market Intervention Scheme (MIS) for procurement of horticultural commodities which are perishable in nature and are not

covered under Price Support Scheme

Apart from the above, the following schemes are being implemented by this Ministry to increase the production, strengthen existing procurement infrastructure, processing and marketing of milk, which helps in stabilizing the prices of milk in the county.

â€¢ National Dairy Plan Phase -I
â€¢ National Programme for Bovine Breeding & Dairy Development (NPBB&DD)
â€¢ Dairy Entrepreneurship Development Scheme (DEDS)

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